

STEAM ROLLER PERIL IN P. S. C., SAYS MALTBY

Minority Member Startles
Investigators by Alleged
Methods of Board.

APPEAL TO CITY OFFICIALS FOR HELP

Commissioner Tells of How He
Was Kept in Ignorance of
Important Matters.

The terms of the Public Service Commission's steam roller were told yesterday by Commissioner Maltby to the legislative investigating committee at the City Hall. How he felt it approaching and how he could not get it out of his mind were also part of Maltby's tale.

When the committee evidently thought that the examination of the witness was at an end, and Colonel William Hayward asked if he had anything further to say, Mr. Maltby sprang the surprise.

"Yes, I have a statement to make," Mr. Maltby said.

He then proceeded to conferences which I have had with the Mayor, Mr. McAneny, and Mr. Pell. I will tell you just how these arose. Matters have come up in connection with the contract, and when I have seen the steam roller being prepared I have gone to these officials for help.

"Then you have a steam roller in the commission?" Assemblyman Bird asked.

Maltby Springs Surprise.

"Oh, yes," the witness replied, "and I've been flattened out on several occasions. I don't know whether you men know what a steam roller is, but I can see one a great way off. I think it is only fair to say that some of the things affecting the city were stopped through the influence of the men I conferred with."

Mr. Maltby then cited the cases where he had sought aid from city officials. He named the Stevens contract for extending elevated lines, and one with Terry & Tench.

"That was the only way I could stop the work," he said, "because I had no vote in the commission. I had to tell the city officials of matters of public interest which required their attention."

"When a man is in the minority, as I have been on the commission, and when he knows that things are being kept from him for weeks, he must take every means for what he believes right. When a franchise is granted it isn't the duty of the commission to amend it, and whenever companies are not compelled to live up to the terms of their franchises it amounts to an amendment."

The Commissioner then told of his conferences with Mayor Mitchell, Mr. McAneny and others.

"I have not one word of apology to

offer for what I did in those matters. I'm not ashamed of any of the meetings, as they were for the public interest. And under the same circumstances, he concluded, "I would do the same thing again."

Earlier in the session Colonel Hayward read a passage from the Criminal Code of 1914, referring to the use of employer's automobiles by employees. Having shown by a chauffeur's report that on April 25, 1914, the Commissioner had taken a trip of 155 miles with Judge W. L. Ransome to Suffern, Tuxedo and Peekskill.

Defends His Auto Trip.

Mr. Maltby was asked: "What difference is there in the cases we prosecute of boys in Canal Street taking public servants' cars and that of a public servant?" The witness, who up to this time had been calm, banged his fist on the desk and proceeded to defend himself.

"I used the car that day," he replied, "but I paid for it. I told the auditor to give me a bill for it, and I consider that I have been absolutely right."

"That would be no defense to this statute," Colonel Hayward remarked. "No," exclaimed the Commissioner, "and there is no moral delinquency either. I know what this intimation means. Let any man on the commission, commissioner, counsel or secretary, produce his cards, and I defy him to show one who has used a car less than I have. Why, do you know, it shocked some people when I wanted to pay for that car."

This brought a burst of applause from the audience. Then Mr. Maltby continued to tell how he had been forced to hire automobiles to go to a residence where he had never turned in a bill. He said the committee had the one instance where he took a car outside of the city, and he paid for that trip.

"I think this investigation has set up a standard for commissioners that cannot be lived up to," he said a moment later, when questioned. "He had been asked as to the benefits which he had derived from a transfer of the commission's powers, especially of its engineering department, to the Board of Estimate."

He admitted that the transfer might be made, but remarked that the high standard set up for commissioners.

"Do you believe such a transfer would delay the subway work?" was the next question.

The Commissioner replied that the appointment of a new commission would hold it back. Then Colonel Hayward asked, "How long would it take to break in a new body?"

"If you're talking about archaism, that's a different matter. If you can get men who are perfect, with foresight as well as hindsight, you'll soon have a commission that would be so high New York couldn't see it—it would be so far up in the clouds."

William M. Ives, allowed Commissioner Maltby on the stand. He had been invited to give some suggestions regarding the possible redistribution of the commission's work, and also the matter of possible changes in the law.

He believed the state's interests would be best served, he said, "by the appointment of one Public Service Commission, to be composed of seven members. Three of these might be selected from the electorate, the same number from the state, and the seventh man, the presiding officer, could be selected at large."

It will sooner or later be necessary, I believe, to divest the commission of all functions of the old Rapid Transit Board, which should be vested in the Board of Estimate."

Mr. Ives reviewed the political

events leading up to the appointment of the first and second railway commissions of the state, the election of Governor Hughes, and the naming of the Public Service Commission.

Ives Would Not Repeal Law.

"But I should by no means," he continued, "try to redraft the whole Public Service Commission law. I would consider the repeal of the present law, and the substitution of another economic waste. The law, as it now is, may be amended in certain passages, and to this suggestion I do not object."

The witness declared that there was not a single law on the statute books which resulted in accomplishing the purpose for which it was intended, and that alone.

"If the idea is carried too far, it will drive private capital out of public utility corporations, and necessitate the use of public funds. This can be raised only by taxation, and I don't think it is just ripe for that now," he said.

After suggesting that the principles of the National Civic Federation could be profitably applied in considering amendments to the law, Mr. Ives was excused.

The last witness of the day was Controller Prendergast. He praised the work of the commission in its subway extension efforts since January, 1910.

"Do you think we have an efficient commission?" asked Senator Thompson.

"I believe that the work has been done well in the main," was the reply. "There may have been omissions and omissions, but I doubt if you will find more than in the work of any other body."

Mr. Prendergast took a different view than Mr. Ives as to the number of men which might constitute the commission. He thought five was the proper number, and believed that a division of regulatory functions to three of the members might be made, with the balance of the work left to the remaining commissioners.

"Do you think the Public Service Commissioners are being paid too much?" followed from Colonel Hayward.

"No," was the answer. "A commissioner who does his work can save the city \$15,000 a year."

The Controller then said his experience with Commissioners Wilcox and McCall showed that both seemed to have a high realization of their responsibilities.

Mayor Mitchell and Mr. McAneny are expected to be called by the committee at its session to-day.

PAID 'MISSIONARIES' \$2 EACH, HE SAYS

Stillwell, Yonkers Alderman, Testifies in Vote Buying Case.

"Missionary work," was the way Alderman Frederick H. Stillwell, of Yonkers, on trial in White Plains Supreme Court for alleged vote buying, described yesterday election time toil, for which he paid five men \$2 each. He was the first witness called for the defense after Justice Tompkins had denied a motion to dismiss the case on the ground that no evidence had been produced to show that Stillwell had bought votes at last November's election.

The alderman admitted that two days after election he had paid five of the workmen who were called as witnesses for the state on Tuesday for "missionary work in behalf of the workmen's compensation act." He denied that he had ever bought or paid for any man's vote or that he ever promised to pay any man for voting. He admitted, however, that he had paid men for watching at the polls.

Corporation Counsel Curran of Yonkers, of Stillwell's counsel, wanted to know all about the country inn at which the three laborers, witnesses for the prosecution, were kept. The workmen had an automobile for themselves and received what they called "elegant" treatment. Patrick McKinney, one of them, was put on the stand yesterday. He was not an altogether satisfactory witness, because most of his answers to Curran's questions were: "I don't remember" or "I may have."

McKinney said he had been brought up to the inn by two New York detectives, who told him he was to go about the men in the place and get them to admit that they were paid for voting on Election Day. He admitted he had been at Stillwell's house before and after election, but he had been drinking, he said, and did not remember what had taken place.

He said that McKinney had asked him several times for money and for a job in the Street Cleaning Department. He admitted that he had given McKinney money occasionally, but he denied that he knew anything about the way McKinney voted.

Joseph Gallasso, a saloonkeeper, testified that he saw Stillwell hand over cash to men in his saloon two days after election. In 1913, he testified, Stillwell gave him a list of eighteen names and a roll of bills, with instructions to pay them \$4 each. He admitted that he had given them the money, but he denied that he knew anything about the way McKinney voted.

James Marrone, Daniel Boyd and William O'Neil testified that they were paid \$2 each by Stillwell in Gallasso's saloon. They admitted that Stillwell never asked them how they voted. Assistant District Attorney Fallon will cross-examine Stillwell at to-day's session.

ABANDONED IN LONDON American Laborers Besiege Consulate for Return Trip.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

London, Feb. 24.—More than a hundred mulattoes, seamen and laborers anxious to return to America have besieged the United States Consulate the last few days, according to a statement made to-day by Consul General Skinner. He said that these men arrived here recently, and, according to their own statements, their return trip was guaranteed by the agents who employed them, but this was not done. Mr. Skinner said:

"This is a serious situation. I don't doubt the word of these men that the promise of return trips was made to them, but when they reached here they received \$10 or so and were left stranded and unable to work their way home. I suppose the agents thought that the United States government can pay their expenses home. This consulate has sent some able-bodied seamen back. These agents should be made to pay the return expenses of these men."

All sorts and descriptions of men have worked their way across, including college men and negro stablemen.

Suffrage Loses in Vermont.

Montpelier, Vt., Feb. 24.—The woman suffrage bill, which passed the House recently, was refused a third reading in the Senate to-day by a vote of 193 to 100. The House bill provided that all women real estate owners of legal age should have the right to vote.



P.S. COMMISSIONERS CRAM AND WILLIAMS
INSPECTING 42ND ST. SUBWAY MANHOLE.

BOY WAIF GUEST AT GOULD HOME

Continued from page 1

To Helen Margaret, aged fourteen, and Dorothy, aged twelve, daughters of Frank J. Gould, who are staying with their aunt. But the smile with which he related the incident seemed to carry an impression of his affliction. As for the little Miss Goulds, they found the boy a sturdy playmate, and, if the truth be told, they hated to see him go.

"He came to us from St. Christopher's Home," at Dobbs Ferry," added Mr. Sheard, who asked for more details about this infant invader of Fifth Avenue. "I believe he is visiting at the home of other friends now." This with a quizzical sort of smile, but he was still in the mood of what John Doe brought to the Gould home.

In addition to praising the personality of his young visitor, Mr. Sheard advanced an offhand theory as to why the boy's parents, if they are living, have not claimed him.

"In several cases of the abandonment of children which have come to my notice in an unofficial way," he said, "charity investigators have found that the parents were committed to prison. Perhaps, under such circumstances, even after the parents are released, they do not make haste in laying claim to their children."

John Doe No. 104 is as well known at the Children's Society office, Fourth Avenue and East Twenty-second Street, as if he worked there. Every one is ready to tell how the boy completely won the hearts of those strange men in whose power he found himself.

"That boy," said Superintendent Moore, the man who has done most to find a real name for little John Doe. "We had him up here in this office several times, and we all fell in love with him. You can't help but like him after you get one look at him."

Dr. Brown, superintendent of St. Christopher's Home, at Dobbs Ferry, said over the telephone that the boy was still in the custody of that institution. He did not care to discuss the visits John Doe makes when he goes away from the home.

For only one thing the boy is to do himself some good, said Dr. Brown. "We are still making efforts to find his parents. Our last clue came from a man who called himself Edward Edwards, and who lived in Syracuse. I don't know whether this clue has been proven worthless."

Information from the Children's Society corroborated Dr. Brown's suspicion. The Syracuse man, who, it was reported, would identify John Doe, could not be found, or traced.

When Patrolman Dinagan, of the Nineteenth Precinct, took the boy to the station house, a tried hand to identify him was Austin McElroy, and that he lived at 684, or 68 Broad Street, Philadelphia.

"I live in a great big house with lots of grass around it and cows and chickens," he told officials of the Children's Society on the following day. When asked how he happened to come to New York, he said that a man had stolen him.

Later he changed his story, saying that, with his sister, Gwendolyn, he had been taken to New York by a man who was found in front of the cathedral.

He said that he had traveled on a ferryboat and a "high rail-train," doubtless meaning the elevated road, "doubtless meaning the elevated road," he said, "doubtless meaning the elevated road."

He leaves every evidence of having been reared in a good home.

Walter B. Walker, lawyer and philanthropist, of 135 Broadway, was one of the first to investigate the mystery of the boy's identity. Mr. Walker was of the opinion that the child might have been kidnapped two or three years ago and given up for dead by his parents.

All efforts to locate his home and parents having failed, on October 9 he was committed to St. Christopher's Home by Justice Hoyt.

Suffrage Book Delayed.

Miss Mary Donnelly, whose book, "The Reminiscences of Miss Mary Donnelly on Suffrage," was announced some time ago to be published shortly, said yesterday that it had been delayed, but would appear early in April.

"Our Mary" has been ill, and couldn't complete the book as soon as she hoped.

CAUCUS KILLS RIDER IN WORKMEN'S BILL

Republican Members of
the Assembly Revolt
and Win Fight.

END OF JOKER, SAYS INSURGENT LEADER

Will Pass Compensation Measure Without Casualty Company Feature.

(From a Staff Correspondent of The Tribune.)

Albany, Feb. 24.—Under the leadership of John Leo Sullivan, of Chautauque County, the Republican members of the Assembly revolted to-day against the orders of the legislative leaders of both houses and refused to pass the workmen's compensation appropriation bill, which would have passed the Assembly in favor of the casualty companies.

The insurgency came as a surprise to Senator Brown, Speaker Sweet and Assemblyman Hinman. In came as a surprise to all, the bill rider and all, having passed the Senate by an almost strict party vote.

Sullivan gave notice this morning that he would fight if the bill should be reported out of the Assembly Judiciary Committee with the rider. A caucus of the Republican Assemblymen was therefore called for this afternoon. In the next time word was passed among the Assemblymen to vote Sullivan down.

Sullivan, however, went into the caucus seeing red. He listened impatiently to Speaker Sweet, Leader Hinman and the others who spoke in favor of the bill. When they finished John L., as his intimates call him, started to trip the rider to pieces.

"The Republicans cannot afford to pass this bill with its rider, which will enable the casualty companies of this state to make millions of dollars at the expense of the sufferings of injured workmen, the grief of mourning widows and the tears of fatherless children."

"The rider is solely in favor of the casualty companies. The workmen do not want it. The only people who want it are the casualty companies."

Some one interrupted to ask him what he knew about the casualty companies, whereupon the casualty companies came in for a denunciation, the while Mr. Sullivan shook his fist in the direction of his interrogator.

"Baldersdick," exclaimed someone. "I'm not talking baldersdick. I am talking facts. I thought you had heard me, and maybe you'll believe me when I tell you that as a lawyer I represented casualty companies in scores of cases."

Sullivan's speech was received with cheers, and he was joined by George R. Brennan, Fred G. Milligan, Jr., and August C. Flanagan, of Brooklyn. When the question resolved itself into a vote it was decided unanimously to pass the bill with the objectionable rider stricken out. Even Speaker Sweet and Mr. Hinman voted with the rest.

"That's the end of that little joker," said Sullivan later.

With the refusal of the Assembly to concur in the Senate amendment, the future of the proposed direct settlement plan became doubtful. A feeling is prevalent among many Republicans that it will be impossible to put the direct settlement amendment through the upper house again. Minority Leader Wagner of the Senate said to-night he would continue to oppose the direct settlement amendment in any form.

The impression now prevails that the Senate will rush through the amended bill next week, so that the salaries of the commission employees, who have not been paid since January 15, may be met.

BABY SAYRE TRAVELS President's Grandson Takes First "Choo-Choo" Ride.

(From The Tribune Bureau.)

Washington, Feb. 24.—Francis Sayre, the President's only grandchild, descended his perambulator to-day and enjoyed his first ride on the "choo-choo" cars.

Mr. and Mrs. Francis Rowan Sayre, with their young son and two nurses, constituted the party. They were escorted to the Union Station by the President, Miss Margaret Wilson and the Secretary of the Treasury and Mr. McAdoo.

At the entrance of the station the great vestibule used only for the most distinguished visitors to the capital was hung open and brilliantly lighted for the party. The baby is said to be the youngest person for whom the entrance has ever been illuminated.

Mr. and Mrs. Sayre and Francis will go directly to their home in Williams-town, Mass., and will be on hand to-morrow night to welcome Secretary of Agriculture Houston, who will deliver a lecture at Williams College.

Barnes-Roosevelt Suit.

Syracuse, N. Y., Feb. 24.—The libel suit William Barnes against Colonel Theodore Roosevelt for \$50,000 damages was noticed to-day for trial in the Supreme Court of Onondaga County during the April term.

James H. Hogue, of New York, attorneys for Mr. Barnes. Preference was claimed for an early trial.

\$5 Open Sesame to Marvels of Ex-Senator Clark's Home

Public Received at Most Expensive Home in America,
Where Benefit Is Held to Help French Military Hospital—Art Treasures Shown.

The most extraordinary house in America was thrown open to the public yesterday for the first time. Any one who had the five dollars to pay for the ticket could knock at the door at 942 Fifth Avenue and walk right up to Senator William A. Clark's million-dollar mansion, past a Gobelin tapestry, over priceless Persian rugs to a heart of the mansion, which is a 440,000 pipe organ. This is the first time that the world has been able to see the treasure of character before a pass to the house would be issued.

The occasion was for the benefit of the French military hospital at Val de Grace. About two hundred persons, mostly women, paid \$5 for the privilege of getting into the house and seeing the art treasures. The first time that the world has been able to see the treasure of character before a pass to the house would be issued.

The concert was under the direction of Mrs. Charles H. Marshall, who established the hospital at Val de Grace. Among the guests were Mrs. and Mrs. Andrew T. Turret, who gives violin lessons to Mr. Clark's eight-year-old daughter, Huguette, arranged the programme. The artists, all of whom volunteered their services, were Mlle. Challet-Baume, soprano; Scott Brook, organist; Jean Verand, pianist; Paul Kefer, violinist; André Turret, and Claude Benedict, of the French Theatre.

Among the guests were Mr. and Mrs. Frank B. Alexander, Countess Annie Leary, Mrs. John Ryan, Mrs. J. H. Harding, Mrs. MacDonald Hawkes, Mrs. Burke Roche, Mrs. Lewis Rutherford Morris, Mrs. De Witt Welles and Mrs. J. Conk.

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15.00
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Men's Fur-Lined Overcoats

36 TO 44 CHEST

Of black kersey, lined with natural muskrat, including sleeves; collar of real Hudson seal or real Persian lamb.

35.00
Heretofore \$55.00 and \$65.00

JUDGE TO CRUSH FEUDS FILM ACTRESS DYING AFTER AUTO SMASH

Boy who Shot Man Boasts of
Deed as He Gets Long Term.

"I want it distinctly understood by Italians and others in this community that the vendetta does not go here," said Judge Mulqueen, in Special Session, yesterday, as he sentenced Matteo Amato, eighteen, to ten to nineteen and a half years in state prison. Amato pleaded guilty a week ago to having shot Kattora Comparotto to avenge the shooting of his father.

The boy expressed no regret for his deed when he was brought in for sentence yesterday.

"I am glad Comparotto is dead," he asserted, "I would do it again, yes, ten thousand times again, for I know the spirit of my father is near me. Did I not kneel at my father's bed when he was shot four times and lay dying? And did I not make him tell me it was Comparotto who shot him? I raised my hand then and swore I would get Comparotto."

TO AID BELGIAN LAWYERS

Bar Ass'n Will Help King Albert's Bristleless Ones.

Now that those who remain of the Belgians are too busy during their waking hours fighting the Kaiser to squabble among themselves, the condition of the Belgian lawyer is, take it from Alton B. Parker, pitiable indeed. Mr. Parker says that all chance for a lawyer to earn a living in Belgium has vanished. The Germans have most of the property. Therefore there is no chance for a remunerative civil action. As for the original inhabitants, they have been cleaned out of everything, even law suits.

At Mr. Parker's suggestion, the American Bar Association has appointed a committee, headed by Joseph H. Choate, to look after its destitute brethren on the other side. Every lawyer will be asked to give at least \$1 toward relief, and a general appeal has been sent out to direct the charity of the public toward the refugee lawyers of the stricken country.

FOR "PITILESS PUBLICITY"

House Again Demands Names of Backers of Judges.

(From The Tribune Bureau.)

Washington, Feb. 24.—A "pitiless publicity" amendment to a bill creating an additional district judge in the Southern District of Georgia was again adopted in the House to-day by an overwhelming vote of 303 to 98. The amendment requires that the President, in naming the new judge, "shall make public the names of those who endorsed him."

When the bill originally passed the House the amendment was included in the motion of Representative Cullip, an Indiana Democrat. The Senate struck out the publicity provision. Chairman Webb of the Judiciary Committee moved to-day to concur in the Senate amendment, but Mr. Cullip, insisting that the country had a right to know the names of those interesting themselves in judicial appointments, defeated the motion. The House conferees are directed to stand out in favor of publicity, and this probably will result in killing the bill for this session.

TO BUY COAL FOR ITALY?

Captain Pfister, Once Attache, Arrives on Stampalia.

Captain Carlo Pfister, of the Royal Italian Navy, who said he had been attached to the Italian Embassy in Washington for six years, arrived here yesterday from Genoa on the Italian steamship Stampalia, on a mission for his country.

It is said that he came here to purchase 6,000,000 tons of coal, which Italy is anxious to have delivered as soon as possible. Also on the Stampalia came two Italian army officers, who have been commissioned to purchase horses for the Italian artillery and cavalry.

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